

Report of the two-day International Conference on 'Centres of Educational Excellence and Sites of Knowledge in Early India CESKE-2018): History, Dimensions and New Researches'

A Two-day International Conference on Centres of Educational Excellence and Sites of Knowledge in Early India: History, Dimensions and New Researches' was jointly organized and held by the department of History and Social Sciences and Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts-IGNCA (Under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi at Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078 on 12th-13th October 2018. Its inaugural session began at 9.30-45 am in our auditorium with the patron Dr. S.K.Garg, special Patron Prof. Sachhidanand Joshi, Member-secretary, IGNC, Prof. KTS Sarao, Prof and Head, department of Buddhist Studies, University of Delhi, Prof. Pierre Sylvain Filliozat, Former Professor of Sanskrit, University of Sarbonne, Paris, France and Dr. Radha Madhav Bharadwaj, convener of the conference on the dias. Dr. Nisha Rana was the anchor. After the lighting of the lamp and Manglachararn by Dr. Arvind Sharmat of the IGNC, Dr. S.K.Garg, Principal of the college and patron of the conference, welcomed the guests, delegates, the faculty and the students. Dr. Radha Madhav Bharadwaj, the convener of the conference introduced the theme of the conference to the audience, Prof. Sacchidanad Joshi ji delivered his chief Guest's address, Prof. KTS Sarao delivered his keynote address and vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sushma Jatoo, convener from IGNC. It was a huge success beyond expectation as there were delegates from France, Combdia, Nepal and seven Indian Universities and six government and private academic institutions were represented, 32 papers were read, one keynote and one valedictory address were delivered, one session of half an hour was devoted to the actual *Shastrarth*, an ancient system of public debating involving two students and supervised by their Acharya from the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (deemed University under Min. of HRD, Govt. of India) and one 15 minutes lecture was given by the newly appointed Vice -Chancellor of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihar, deemed University under Min. of Culture. Thus the total number of lectures that were delivered in two days were 37 in all.

There were great organized Buddhist Universities, older than even the Great Greeks, there were Sanskrit colleges like Ghatikas in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and other South Indian cities, there were village centres of excellence like Agraharas in Karnataka and other South Indian states and TOL schools in North Eastern states like Mithila in Bihar, Bengal, Assam and Orissa which played a great role in producing great teachers and pupils, wonderful poets, writers, poets, musicians, playwrights, mathematicians, martial arts experts, architects, doctors and others about which we study even now and they form the basis of our early Indian syllabi but the modern universities don't attach any importance to them and those brilliant products. This conference was held to include new researches done in this field in the last two-three decades. Such a large number of participants endorse my understanding of the significance of the subject.

A panel on women in early India was also held chaired by the scholar former Vice-chancellor Prof. Sacchidanand Joshi, Member-secretary, IGNC and initiated by Dr. Vsundhara Filliozat, an expert on Kannada and Sanskrit Inscriptions and joined by Dr. Dimple Kaur, a renowned Kathak exponent, Dr. Bhuwan Jha, Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum, Dr. Yuthika Mishra, Associate Professor in History at Vivekanand College and member, All India Women's Conference and Dr. Sushma Jatoo of the IGNC. This was a brilliant session in which both the pros and cons of the issues related to women and gender were discussed and debated but the most significant part of the session was that reference to empowered women, women poets, architects, donors and donees in early Indian texts and inscriptions were presented and the seminar Hall was fully packed to enjoy the session. Dr. Dimple Kaur raised the issue about the fact as to why at all we have to assemble to discuss this gender issue and why women still suffer on different occasions.

On 12th oct. evening, Dr. Dimple Kaur presented a half an hour's dance programme with a message; RISE, WOMEN RISE. Through her mesmerizing Kathak recital, she sent the audience spell-bound with

the pathos that the women still go through in day to day life. She called all the students and many teachers on the stage and exhorted them to break the shackle, raise their voice against the injustice perpetrated against the women in their life. This was a great success- a message through dance. We thank Dr. Dimple Kaur for presenting such a mesmerizing dance recital which sent many go back with tears in their eyes and a new resolve in heart to fight for the women's cause.

The valedictory session began at around 6 pm on 13th oct. Dr. Sushma Jatoo welcomed the valedictory speaker Prof. Shalendra Raj Mehta, President, MICA, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Dr. Yuthika Mishra presented the summary of all the papers and programmes and Dr. Radha Madhav Bharadwaj gave the vote of thanks. Dr. Bharadwaj recalled the great help rendered by respected Principal Dr. S.K.Garg and the Organising Committee members H.C. Jain, Vice-Principal, Dr. Kulvinder Singh, Bursar, Dr. Manoj Saxena, Convener Research Committee and NAAC, Dr. Nisha Rana, Dr. Monika Bansal, Dr. H.P.Roy, Dr. Anil Kumar, Dr. Rakesh, Dr. Suman Bala Manchamda, Dr. Anita Rani, Dr. Rohith P., Dr. Lalit, Dr. Abhijit Sinha, Dr. Nitin, Dr. Savita Gautam, Ms. Sangita, Ms Vaishali, Ms. Nitumoni Kakati, Mr. Sikandar Aggarwal (AO), Dr. Charu Kalra, Mr. Ankit Rajpal, Dr. Shankar Kumar of Hindu College, Dr. Bhuwan K.Jha of Satyawati College and Nehru Fellow, Dr. Yuthika Mishra of All India Women's Conference. I also thank our SO Accounts Mr. Hari and SO Adm. Mr. Prem Singh Rawat and Sr. PA to Principal Mr. Sandeep Mago, Caretaker Mr Rajesh Bharadwaj in helping me in various ways. But this is only half part of the thanks. I pay my utmost regards and thanks to the officers of the IGNC- Prof Sachhidanand Joshi ji, Member-secretary, Dr. Sushma Jatoo Director Nari Sanvad Prkalp and Dr. Sudhir K.Lall who not only helped us with a handsome amount of Rs. two lacs but in many ways than I can name. My sincere thanks to them and I hope to benefit from their experiences and treasures in future as well. The students enjoyed the conference as audience and one 2nd year BA Student Ms. Ria Jain also read her research paper on the contribution of Shrimala in early india. They helped us in various ways and made our task much easier. They first time felt the value of a team and came together as a team and they earned the praise of the delegates in the conference and those residing in the delegates rooms in our Guest House. Particular mention must be made of Ms Neha Waila, Mr. Vikas Chaudhary, Mr. Apoorva Bansal, Mr Himanshu, Mr, Pradeep Vats, Ms Lavanya, Ms. Abhilasha Gupta, Ms. Komal Yadav, Ms. Komal Rani, Ms. Bhawna, Ms. Jyoti, Mr. Abhimanyu Chaudhary, Mr. Jatin, Mr. Vaibhav Gulia, Mr. Mohit, Mr Sachin Siwach and others whose name I am not able to recall. My sincere thanks to all my students who made me feel that I am a resourceful teacher. I wish them success and good luck in life.

Dr. Radha Madhav Bharadwaj

Convener, International conference, DDU College, University of Delhi

IGNCA and DDU

**International Conference on 'Centres of Educational Excellence and Sites of Knowledge in Early India up to 13th Century A. D: History, Dimensions and New Researches'
12 & 13 October, 2018
Session Schedule**

Day-1 – 12.10.2018		
9.00 TO 9.30 – REGISTRATION – Near AUDITORIUM		
9.30 TO 11.15 -- INAUGURAL SESSION- AUDITORIUM		
9.30 TO 9.35	MANGALACHARAN LIGHTING OF LAMP	DIGNITARIES
9.35 TO 9.50	WELCOME ADDRESS, INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE & BOOK RELEASE: REINTERPRETING INDOLOGY AND INDIAN HISTORY: INSTITUTIONS,INTENTIONS,SOUURCES AND ISSUESS	Dr. RADHA MADHAV BHARDWAJ
9.50 TO 10.00	ADDRESS	PROF. YOGESH TYAGI, VICE-CHANCELLOR, D U
10.00 TO 10.10	ADDRESS	Dr. SACHCHIDANAND JOSHI, MEMBER-SECRETARY, IGNCA
10.10 TO 10.40	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	PROF. K T S SARAO, EMINENT BUDDHIST SCHOLAR
10.40 TO 11.10	SPECIAL ADDRESS	PROF. RADHA VALLABH TRIPATHI, EMINENT SANSKRITIST AND FORMER VC, RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT SANSTHAN
11.10 TO 11.15	VOTE OF THANKS	Dr. S. K. GARG, PRINCIPAL, DDU
11.15 TO 12.00 -- HI-TEA		
12.00 TO 2.00 SESSION – I SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR CHAIR: PROF. PIERRE SYLVAIN FILLIOZAT CO- CHAIR: Dr. DEVASIA MURUPPATH ANTONY		
12.00 TO 12.20	MITHILA KA SHAIKSHANIKA KENDRA 'TOL'- UDBHAVA, VIKASA, AUR AVASANA	Dr. BHAIRAB LAL DAS
12.20 TO 12.40	PRACHINA MITHILA MEIN SHIKSHA	Dr. SHIV KUMAR MISHRA
12.40. TO 1.00	TRADITIONAL LEARNING SYSTEM OF BENGAL UPTO 13 TH CENTURY	Dr. TAMONASH CHAKRABARTI
1.00 TO 1.20	EDUCATIONAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN TAMIL NADU IN EARLY CENTURIES	Dr. S. A. S. SARMA
1.20 TO 1.40	SHALAS AND SITES OF KNOWLEDGE IN ANCIENT KERALA	Dr. C. M. NEELAKANDHAN
1.40 TO 2.00	DISCUSSIONS	
2.00 TO 3.00	LUNCH	

3.00-320	LECTURE HALL ROOM 509, 5TH FLOOR SHASTRARTHA BY STUDENTS OF RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT SANSTHAN, DEEMED UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI, UNDER MIN. OF HRD, GOVT OF INDIA	
3.20 TO 4.30 SESSION – II SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR CHAIR: PROF. RADHAVALLABH TRIPATHI CO-CHAIR: Dr. TAMONASH CHAKRABARTI		
3.20 TO 3.40	CONCEPTS FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN VEDIC INDIA	PROF. P. S. FILLIOZAT
3.40 TO 4.00	LAKULASHIVA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN MEDIEVAL KARNATAKA	PROF. VASUNDHARA FILLIOZAT
4.00 TO 4.20	NALANDA MAHAVIHARA: A SEAT OF ESOTERIC/TIBETAN BUDDHISM	DR. PREM SHANKAR SHRIVASTAVA
4.20 TO 4.40	THE NALANDA TRADITION: SOURCE OF ACADEMIC CULTURE IN INDIA	Dr. RANA PURUSHOTTAM KUMAR SINGH
4.40 TO 4.55	TEA	
4.55. TO 6.55 PM SESSION – III PARALLEL SESSION		
TRACK I SEMINAR HALL (3RD FLOOR) CHAIR: Dr. R. K. RANA CO-CHAIR: Dr. BHAIRAB LAL DAS	TRACK II ROOM 312 (3RD FLOOR) CHAIR: Dr. RANA PURUSHOTTAM KUMAR SINGH CO-CHAIR: Dr. BHUVAN K.JHA	TRACK III 512 (FIFTH FLOOR) CHAIR: Dr. SASWATI MUTSUDDY CO-CHAIR: Dr. SHIV KUMAR MISHRA
VIKRAMSHILA UNIVERSITY-- MR. DHAMMARATAN	TAKKASILA -- MR. SONU	EMERGENCE OF BUDDHIST LEARNING CENTRES— MS. JYOTI DWIVEDI
EDUCATION SYSTEM OF ANCIENT NEPAL— MS. AMBIKA MANANDHAR	NALANDA AND ANCIENT EDUCATION SYSTEM— REV. LOCH SOVANNA	MAANAVATA KE SARVOTKRISHTA JYOTIPUNJA-PRACHINA BOUDDHA SHIKSHA KENDRA— MR. DHIRAJ KUMAR NIRBHAY
EMERGENCE OF ANCIENT LIBRARY SYSTEM: A STUDY OF NALANDA UNIVERSITY'S LIBRARY-- MR. PRADEEP KUMAR KUSHWAHA	BUDDHIST EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN BUDDHIST ERA— MR. PRAVAL ANAND UPASAK	ANCEINT EDUCATION SYSTEM AS DEPICTED IN THE FA-HEIN'S TRAVELOGUE— MS. SUSHMA SHREE
CHINI YATRIYON KE YATRA VRITTANT MEIN VARNITA NALANDA VISHVAVIDYALAYA-- MR. SUBHAM KUMAR	ODANTAPURI MAHAVIHARA: EK AVALOKANA— MR. DEEPAK KUMAR	SHREEMAL (BHINMAL) AN ANCIENT SEAT OF LEARNING— MS. RIA JAIN
NALANDA UNIVERSITY OF THE BUDDHISTS' AND ITS LEGACY-- MS. SANGAMITRA	TIBBET MEIN BOUDDHA DHARMA KE PRACARA- PRASARA MEIN VIKRAMSHILA	EVALUATION SYSTEM IN ANCIENT INDIA: A GENERAL OVERVIEW—

	VISHVAVIDYALAYA KI BHUMIKA— MR. URJESH KUMAR	MS. ANUSHA SHAKYA
VRIKSHAYURVEDA: AN ANCIENT BOTANICAL SCRIPTURE— Dr. CHARU KALRA, MS. SHIVANGI DAS AND MS. RHAN KASHYAP	BOUDDH SHIKSHANA KENDRON KE NIRMAN MEIN PALA SHASAKON KA YOGADANA— MS. PREETY	
PERFORMANCE by Dr. DIMPLE KAUR titled 'RISE WOMEN, RISE' – 7.00 TO 7.30		
DINNER—7.30 ONWARDS		
Day 2 —13.10.2018		
9.30 TO 11.00		
SESSION –IV, SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR		
CHAIR: PROF.RAMAKANT PANDEY		
CO-CHAIR: Dr. C.M.NEELKANDHAN		
9.30 TO 9.50	FROM UPADHYAYA TO MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA: AN EXAMINATION OF DHAUTA PARIKSHA IN MITHILA	Dr. LALIT KUMAR
9.50 TO 10.10	ANCIENT INDIAN EXAMINATION SYSTEM: A TOUCHSTONE OF KNOWLEDGE	Dr. PANKAJ MISHRA
10.10 TO 10.30	THEORISING DEBATE IN CLASSICAL INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: HERMENEUTICS OF PURVA- PAKSHA KHANDANA AND SIDDHANTA PAKSHA	Dr. DEVASIA MURUPATH ANTONY
10.30 TO 10.50	ANNA SATTRA: NOURISHING THE EARLY INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM	Dr. RADHA MADHAV BAHRDWAJ
10.50 TO 11.00	DISCUSSION & HI-TEA	
11.00 TO 12.00, SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR		
SESSION – V (SPECIAL PANEL ON WOMEN IN EDUCATION)		
PANELISTS: PROF. RADHA VALLABH TRIPATHI, DR. BHUWAN KUMAR JHA, DR. VASUNDHARA FILLIOZAT, DR. DIMPLE KAUR, Dr. SUSHMA JATOO		
12.00 TO 2.00		
SESSION VI, SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR		
CHAIR: Dr. VASUNDHARA FILLIOZAT		
CO-CHAIR: DR. SHANKAR KUMAR		
12.00 TO 12.17	VALABHI: AN UNFORGETTABLE STUDY OF HISTORY	Dr. SASWATI MUTSUDDY
12.17 TO 12.34	REVISITING THE SHARADA PEETHA OF KASHMIR: THE CONTEXT AND THE TEXT	Dr. SUSHMA JATOO
12.34 TO 12.51	NAVADVIP: THE SEAT OF LEARNING IN BENGAL	Dr. ARINDAM BHATTACHARYYA
12.51 TO 1.08	KASHI KI PANDITYA PARAMPARA: KASHI IN THE 12 TH AND THE 13 TH CENTURIES	Dr. YUTHIKA MISHRA
1.08 TO 1.25	CHITRAKOOT: AN UNSUNG CENTRE OF EDUCATION IN SCRIPTURAL AND NON- SCRIPTURAL TEXTS IN EARLY INDIA	PROF. RAMA KANT PANDEY
1.25 TO 1.42	REVIVING AND REMODELLING THE ANC. VEDIC	Dr. BHUVAN K. JHA

	EDUCATION: THE CASE OF ARYA KANYA VIDYA. IN LATE COLONIAL INDIA	
1.42-2.00	DISCUSSION	
2.00 TO 3.00 – LUNCH		
3.00 TO 4.30		
SESSION VII, SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR		
CHAIR: Dr. ARINDAM BHATTACHARYA		
CO-CHAIR: Dr. YUTHIKA MISHRA		
3.00 TO 3.17	INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONING OF HEALING AND MEDICINE IN EARLY INDIA	Dr. SHANKAR KUMAR
3.17 TO 3.34	PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION IN ANCIENT INDIA	Dr. NEERAJ KUMAR JHA
3.34 TO 3.51	EDUCATION IN KAUTILIYA ARTHASHASTRA	Dr. SUDHIR LALL
3.51 TO 4.08	TBD	Dr. ABHIJIT DIXIT
4.08 TO 4.25	MAPPING THE MONASTERY: NALANDA AND THE BUDDHIST COSMOPOLIS (500-1200)	MR. DIWAKAR SINGH
4.25 TO 4.30 – TEA		
4.30 TO 5.30		
SESSION VII—VALEDICTORY, SEMINAR HALL, 3RD FLOOR		
4.30 TO 4.35	MANGALACHARAN	
4.35 TO 4.40	WELCOME	Dr. SUSHMA JATOO
4.40 TO 4.50	CONFERENCE REPORT	Dr. YUTHIKA MISHRA
4.50 TO 5.20	VALEDICTORY ADDRESS	PROF. SHAILEDRA RAJ MEHTA, PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR, MICA , DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, DU , BALLIOL COLLEGE, OXFORD, Ph.D, HARVARD, USA
5.20 TO 5.30	VOTE OF THANKS	Dr. RADHA MADHAV BHARDWAJ